

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

EUR-25 RSR-01 /055 W
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R 280533 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECDEF

INFO DA

CNO

CSAF

SECSTATE WASHDC 7006

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

CONFIDENTIAL KUWAIT 2260

FOR DSAA FROM HOENIG

ABU DHABI FOR AMBASSADOR STOLTZFUS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KU

SUBJ: FMS KUWAIT - HOENIG REPORT #6

REF: KUWAIT 2131

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A STATUS REPORT ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOK,
KEYED TO THE CATEGORIES OUTLINED IN REFERENCED MESSAGE:

A. CATEGORY I (EXCELLENT)

(1) THE F-8 H ACFT (\$67.3 M): REMAINS EXCELLENT CATEGORY AND ENTIRE
PROGRAM IS EXPECTED TO BE REVIEWED BY DEFENSE COUNCIL ON 28
JUNE. KAF HAS NOT RPT NOT RAISED LEASE/ RENTAL OF ACFT TO DOD TEAM;
EVEN THOUGH MENTIONED TO AMBASSADOR BY MINDEF SAAD. ALTERNATIVE
US ACFT (F-5 E) HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED EVEN INFORMALLY WITH DOD TEAM.

(2) ECM EQUIPMENT (\$ 5.5 M) NO CHANGE.

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(3) TRAINING DEVICES. NO CHANGE.

(4) F-8 H ORDNANCE (VALUE UNKNOWN) NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON
THIS UNTIL FIRM DECISION BY GOK TO PROCEED WITH F-8 H PURCHASE.
EXPECT MEETING NEXT WEEK.

(5) UH- IN HELICOPTER (\$14.5 M) SAME AS PREVIOUS REPORT EXCEPT TO ADD THAT ON 26 JUNE FRENCH DEMONSTRATED THE PUMA TO THE KAF HERE IN COUNTRY. KAF WILL SCHEDULE MEETING TO DISCUSS KITS AND CON- FIGURATION OF UH- IN LATER NEXT WEEK.

(6) ADVANCED PILOT TRAINING (\$0.9 M) THIS LETTER SHOULD BE SIGNED SHORTLY AND WILL REQUIRE RAPID RESPONSE REGARDS PERSONNEL PROCEDURES, I. E. INVITATIONAL TRAVEL ORDERS, REPORTING, BILLETING, INITIAL ECL TESTING.

(7) ENLISTED TRAINING (\$2.5 M) L/ O SUBMITTED 20 JUNE. INFORMED INFORMALLY ON 24 JUNE THAT RECRUITMENT OF ACFT MECHS NOT BEGUN. KAF RECRUITMENT PROGRAM PLANNED HERE AND PROBABLY IN PAKISTAN- CAN EXPECT RESULTS IN NINE TO TWELVE MONTHS. RECEIVED REQUEST FOR SAMPLE ECL TEST TO ADMINISTER TO TYPICAL KAF NCO TO ESTABLISH YEARDSTICK.

(8) OFFICER TRAINING (\$10.5 M) L/ O SUBMITTED 20 JUNE. WHILE KAF HAS SOME POTENTIAL PILOT CANDIDATES, WE ARE TOLD THAT AUGUST PROBABLY TOO EARLY FOR ENGLISH/ APTITUDE SCREENING. WILL ADVISE NEXT REPORT.

(9) TOW MSL SYSTEM (\$10.7 M) SAME AS PREVIOUS REPORT EXCEPT TO ADD THAT THE UK DEMONSTRATED SWINGFIRE ON 23 JUNE AND FRENCH DEMONSTRATED HOT ON 24 JUNE. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON KUWAITI REACTION TO THESE DEMONSTRATIONS.

(10) SITE SURVEY (\$11.4 M) AT REQUEST OF GOK WE DISCUSSED THIS L/ O IN DETAIL. GOK NOW UNDERSTAND THE TIE- IN BETWEEN CE ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNICATION SURVEY.;

&(11) MOTORCYCLES (\$0.7 M) NO CHANGZ

(12) ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT (\$3.8) NO CHANGE.

(13) SPECIAL AND GENERAL PURPOSE VEHICLES (\$10.2 M) NO CHANGE

(14) WHEELED ARMORED CAR - CADILLAC- GAGE (EST \$30.0 M) HIS ITEM ADVANCED FROM CATEGORY III (DOUBTFUL) TO CATEGORY I (EXCELLENT) AS A RESULT OF DEMONSTRATION. VEHICLE ARRIVED IN KUWAIT EVENING OF 22 JUNE BY BOAT. CLEARED CUSTOMS AND DROVE CAR TO ARMY HQ ON 23 JUN. THE VEHICLE HAS A 20 MM GUN MOUNTED WHICH GIVES A HIGHER PROFILE IN DESERT THAN ALLOWED BY KA AND SOME DISCOUR- AGING COMMENTS WERE MADE WHEN COMPARING HEIGHT OF THIRD COUNTRY VEHICLES. ON 24 JUN GEN MUBARAK, C OF S KA PERSONALLY DROVE

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VEHICLE OVER DIFFICULT DESERT TEST TRACK WITH DEEP SAND, HIGH BAKS AND SPECIAL TRIAL. UPON RETURN, HE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER PERFORMANCE AND REQUESTED TEAM REMAIN UNTIL MINISTER OF DEFENSE ARRIVED FOR A LOOK AT THE CAR. EASE OF HANDLING AND DRIVING WAS MAJOR SELLING POINT. GENERAL ASKED FOR FIRING DEMO BUT SINCE WE BELIEVE EXTREME HEAT HERE HAD DEGRADED AMMO, THE GUN WAS NOT OPERATING AT FULL AUTOMATIC AND WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL. INSTEAD WE OFFERED A DEMO ON SWIMMING CAPABILITY OF VEHICLE WHICH WAS ACCEPTED. ON 25 JUN STATIC DISPLAY OF VEHICLE TO KA TRAINING SCHOOL OFFICERS WAS WELL RECEIVED. THE GUN TURRET WAS REMOVED AND ALL ADVANTAGES OF VEHICLE AS COMMAND CAR AND PERSONNEL CARRIER PRESENTED. A 12- MAN SQUAD WAS GIVEN 10 MINUTE TRAINING INSTRUCTION ON MOUNTING AND DISMOUNTING VEHICLE AND WHEN OBSERVED

BY OFFICERS HOW TROOPS COULD OPERATE THE CAR WITH SUCH LITTLE PREPARATION ALL AGREED CAR MEETS THEIR NEEDS. ON 26 JUN IN EARLY AM CAR WAS TAKEN TO SELECTED GULF BEACH FOR FORDING AND SWIMMING DEMO. GEN MUBARAK COULD NOT ATTEND. THREE SUCCESSFUL SWIMS MADE WITH KA OFFICERS ABOARD. ON 27 JUN, CAR TAKEN TO TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DRIVING TEST BY ALL NCO INSTRUCTORS. OSD/ DA REPS MET WITH CHIEF, KA ARMORED TO DEVELOP FMS CASE AND ADVISED THAT GEN MUBARAK WANTS TO SEE THE SWIMMING DEMO AND WANTS DISCUSSION ON PURCHASE OF ARMORED CAR WITH 90 MM GUN.

(15) CONTRACTOR IN- COUNTRY MAINTENANCE (\$10.5 M) NOW CONSIDERED CAT I.

(16) AIR DEFENSE RADAR (\$9.1 M) L/ O'S BASED ON INFO PROVIDED BY CSAF, FOR TPS-43 AND GPS-11 PRESENTED TO KAF; CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO THESE AS WELL AS TPS-32. ANTICIPATE REQUIREMENT TO DEVELOP CASE FOR

2-D (PAR) GAP FILLER TO LOCATE VICINITY NORTHERN BORDER. USA IPAR ASSOCIATED WITH HAWK IS PRIME CANDIDATE. HOWEVER, IT IS PREMATURE TO FORCE ISSUE ON THIS TOPIC UNTIL HAWK QUESTION RESOLVED. KAF RECOGNIZES ADVANTAGE OF EXPENDABLE GAP- FILLER COMMONALITY WITH HAWK IPAR OR OTHER AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM PAR.

B. CATEGORY II (FAIR)

(1) M60 A-1 TANK & TANK AMMO (\$88.4 M). IT WAS LEARNED FROM WELL PLACED KA OFFICER THAT GERMAN (LEOPARD) TANK IS CONSIDERED BY KA ARMORED OFFICE TO BE SUPERIOR TO ALL TANKS. THE LEOPARD IS THE PREFERRED FIRST CHOICE, DUE TO LOW PROFILE, ENGINE PERFORMANCE AND HIT RECORD. SECOND CHOICE IS UK CHIEFTAIN DUE TO RANGE OF GUN. ALTHOUGH KA CONCEDES THE EFFICIENCY OF MAINTENANCE AND AIR- COOLED

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ENGINE BENEFITS, CONTINUED REMARKS ABOUT SHOWING DURING M60 A1 DEMONSTRATION MAY TAKE US OUT OF PICTURE. ONLY FRENCH AMX, WHICH KA STATED IS MUCH HIGHER IN PRICE THAN M60 A-1, IS LOWER IN STANDING. WE HAVE REQUESTED EMBASSY BONN TO ADVISE ON FRG " LOW PROFILE" POLICY TO SALES IN AREA SO WE CAN ASSESS OUR POSITION. (SEE BONN 9117).

(2) RADIOS (VALUE UNKNOWN) DECISION ON US RADIOS ARE PENDING RECEIPT OF TM'S REQUESTED FROM ARMY. PRACTICALLY ALL NEW COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT IN KA IS UK MANUFACTURED AND NO INFO ON US MILITARY RADIOS IS AVAILABLE. KA MUS ASSURE US RADIOS WILL NOT COMPARE WITH EXISTING CAPABILITIES.

C. CATEGORY III (DOUBTFUL)

C-23 AIRCRAFT (\$0.4) THE KAF HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED ON THESE AIRCRAFT FOR AN AERO- CLUB. CURRENTLY THERE ARE MORE URGENT REQUIREMENTS TO FILL, THEREFORE THIS ITEM IS NOT BEING CONSIDERED BY KAF AT THIS TIME.

D. CATEGORY IV (UNKNOWN)

(1) TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE (\$1.0 M). NO CHANGE.
(2) HAWK MSL SYSTEM (\$83.9 M) NO CHANGE. THIS POTENTIAL IS DEPENDENT UPON THE KA EVALUATION OF EUROPEAN MISSILE SYSTEMS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KUWAIT02260
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730635/abqcefrm.tel
Line Count: 166
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KUWAIT 2131
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <14-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980304
Subject: FMS KUWAIT - HOENIG REPORT #6
TAGS: MASS, KU
To: SECDEF INFO DA
CNO
CSAF
STATE
USCINCEUR
ABU DHABI
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005